

Newberry Mountain Wilderness



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Ancient volcanic and sedimentary activity resulted in the Newberry Mountains, which also relate to several named geologic faults. Many of the sandy washes have steep walls, and ridges are sparsely vegetated. Canyons open onto large alluvial fans draining north. Historically, desert bighorn sheep migrated through this dry, rugged landscape, with occasional falcons and eagles pausing to rest and forage. Spring wildflowers are usually reliable along the western boundary. Most summers are very hot and dry. For safety and an enjoyable experience, consider visiting this wilderness from October to May. United States Geological Survey (USGS) 7.5 minute quad maps are advisable for travel in this wilderness.

BLM-administered wilderness lands are part of the National Landscape Conservation System, which consists of areas that Congress or the President has established to protect, conserve, and restore the natural and heritage resources on the public lands.

Prior to your visit, please visit our website at:

www.blm.gov/ca/pa/wilderness/wa/areas/newberry_mountains.html



BLM

Barstow Field Office

Area Specifics

Directions

The Newberry Mountains Wilderness is located in San Bernardino County, about 15 miles east of Barstow, CA. To access this wilderness, use (bladed dirt) Camp Rock Road from Interstate 40 (on the north) or State Highway 247 (on the south). High-clearance four-wheel-drive is strongly recommended if you attempt a drive to the north boundary, or access from the east (Kane Wash). Post and cable barriers at or near the boundaries are there to protect your desert wilderness experience, and that of others.

Description

This wilderness includes more than 20,000 acres in the central Mojave Desert and is noted for its rugged volcanic mountains and deep, maze-like canyons. Elevations in the wilderness range from 2,200 feet in the north to 5,100, in the south.

Areas of Interest

Just outside the west boundary of this wilderness, the Azucar Mine is the product of circa 1940 searches for valuable minerals. Two pits, a trench and an inclined shaft are still evident. Geologist visits in 1987 found that the under-ground workings were not accessible. For your own safety, 'Stay Out' of mine shafts, tunnels and prospecting holes. Also, please respect active mining claims; they give claim-ants possessory rights to explore for minerals on those claims. For more on this, see www.geocommunicator.gov.

History fans may enjoy the short hike from Camp Rock Road to a hilltop just inside the southwest boundary. There, with a 360-degree view of the desert, residues of a World War II aircraft beacon site can be examined. The rights of private property owners are always to be respected. Be aware that military aircraft are known to fly at low-level over this wilderness.

Weather

Temperature extremes range from winter lows well below freezing to summer highs above 100 degrees F. Rainfall is minimal, most of it in the winter, but summer thunder storms can arrive with impressive effect. In summer, layered clothing slows dehydration and minimizes exposure. Good hiking shoes, loose fitting natural fiber clothing, a wide brimmed hat, sunglasses and sun-screen are recommended. In winter bring extra warm clothing and dress in layers. For weather forecast information go to www.weather.gov and search for 'Newberry Springs, CA.'

Responsibilities & Risks

Wilderness Defined

Stated simply, federal wilderness is public land where, to the greatest extent possible, "the earth and its community of life" are allowed to continue in their timeless course of events, unhampered by human interference.

In 1964 Congress established the National Wilderness Preservation System, which includes all our nation's wilderness areas, to "*secure for the American people of present and future generations the benefits of an enduring resource of wilderness.*"

As defined in the Wilderness Act, the Newberry Mountains Wilderness offers *opportunities for primitive and unconfined types of recreation*. These can include sightseeing, hiking, backpacking, photography, dry camping, rockhounding, and horseback riding to name a few.

Responsibilities

All of us, when visiting wilderness, are to protect and preserve these areas for future generations—our children and grandchildren. In particular, please refrain from activities likely to injure wildlife or vegetation, including standing dead trees. Please do not use motorized vehicles or mechanized transport devices in the wilderness, as these are prohibited by the Wilderness Act, except under very specific conditions. The rights of nearby private property owners are always to be respected.

Risks

When planning to use wilderness, and while using it, you accept the risks that were there when the wilderness was established. Typically, measures have not been taken to protect your safety, whether the risks are natural or the result of human activity before the area became wilderness (old mine shafts, for example). Measures to rescue you will be a priority only during authentic life-threatening emergencies involving personal health or safety.

When planning your visit, contact your local BLM office well in advance. Ask about access and fire conditions, and whether it is reasonable to bring pets. Be advised that natural water supplies may not be suitable for drinking or cooking.

AREA MANAGEMENT REGULATIONS & TIPS

With very rare exceptions, no motorized equipment or mechanical transport is allowed. This is generally true for all federal lands managed as designated wilderness.

Remember, when visiting any wilderness area, always follow these Leave No Trace principles:

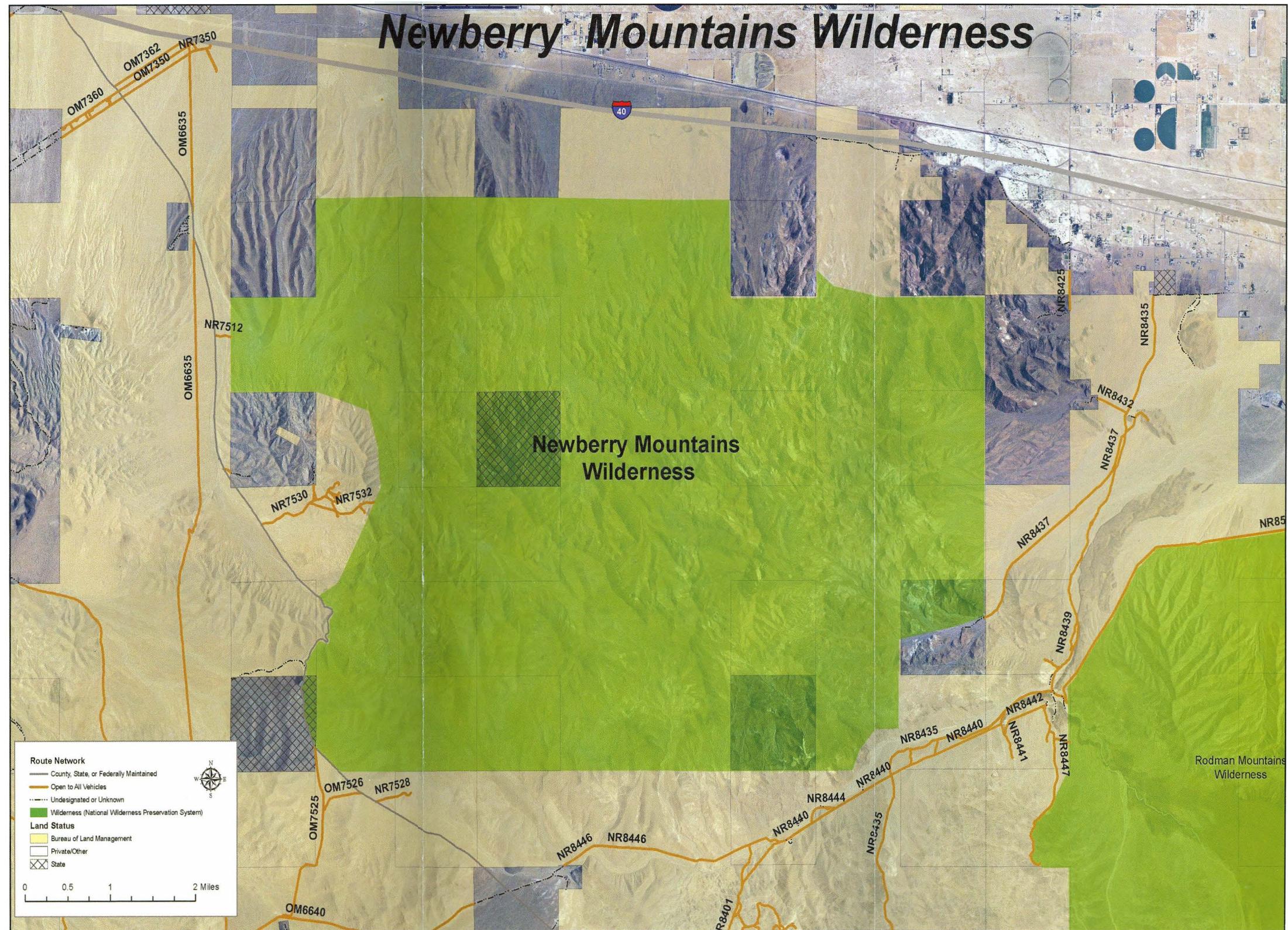
1. Plan Ahead and Prepare
2. Travel and Camp on Durable Surfaces
3. Dispose of Waste Properly
4. Leave What You Find
5. Minimize Campfire Impacts
6. Respect Wildlife
7. Be Considerate of Other Visitors

Access: Along the west boundary, Camp Rock Road is available for ordinary passenger vehicles. All other approaches require off-highway vehicle (OHV) travel.

Park your vehicle outside the wilderness. Do not drive around any post & cable barrier, and stop if you see rocks, brush and other natural materials scattered in the trail ahead to alert you. If you make a mistake, brush out your tracks. If you see or hear vehicles in the wilderness, call BLM immediately.

Private Property: Newberry Mountains Wilderness has privately-owned land around its perimeter. Use these lands only with the owner's permission.

Mine Shafts & Tunnels: Do not enter mine shafts and tunnels. They are not maintained and are unsafe—you can fall through rotting timber or the mine may cave in. Be safe, stay out!



Emergency Services

If **Emergency Services** are required, your first response should be to call **911**. The nearest Ranger can be reached through the **Federal Interagency Communication Center (FICC)** at **(909) 383-5651** or **(888) 233-6518**.

Lost Person

If a member of your party becomes lost, don't panic. Make a note of where the person was last seen and at what time. Call 911 to report the situation. Active search and rescue teams can be dispatched to assist.

Injured Person

It is usually best not to transport an injured person away from an accident scene before medical personnel arrive. Moving a victim improperly can make an injury worse, particularly when the injury is to the head, neck, or back area. If possible, send someone to get help or call 911 to report the incident.

Nearest Hospital

Phone Numbers

BLM Barstow Field Office	(760) 252-6000
BLM Wilderness Coordinator	(760) 252-6042
BLM Volunteer Program	(760) 252-6011

Barstow Community Hospital
555 S. 7th St. Barstow, CA 92311
(760) 256-1761

Office hours for the BLM numbers above are:
Mon.-Fri. 7:45 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Managed By:

U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau Of Land Management
2601 Barstow Road
Barstow, California 92311

<http://www.blm.gov/ca/barstow>